

In the Claims

1. (Original) A method of promoting tissue repair comprising the step of administering a compound which modulates the function of beta 1 integrin to a tissue in need of repair.
2. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the compound modulates the metalloproteinase (MMP) balance.
3. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the compound modulates apoptosis.
4. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 3 wherein the modulation of the apoptotic activity has a resultant modulation in the metalloproteinase (MMP) balance.
5. (Original) An assay method for identifying compounds suitable for use in tissue repair, said assay comprising the steps of:
 - providing a candidate compound,
 - bringing the candidate compound into contact with beta 1 integrin,
 - determining the presence or absence of modulation of beta 1 integrin activity by the candidate compound,wherein modulation of beta 1 integrin activity is indicative of utility of that compound in tissue repair.
6. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method of claim 5 wherein modulation of beta 1 integrin activity is assessed by monitoring variance in the MMP level.
7. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method of claim 5 ~~or 6~~ wherein modulation of beta 1 integrin activity is assessed by the resulting modulation on apoptosis.

8. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method of claim 5 ~~of any one of the preceding claims~~ wherein the compound modulates the function of beta 1 integrin, wherein modulation includes a change in the function of, or the shedding of beta 1 integrin.
9. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method of claim 5 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ wherein the compound binds the beta 1 integrin molecule in the region of amino acid residues 82 to 87 of the sequence of the mature beta 1 integrin molecule.
10. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method of claim 5 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ wherein the compound binds the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, TAEKLLK.
11. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method as claimed in claim 5 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ wherein the compound is a synthetic peptide.
12. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The method as claimed in claim 5 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ wherein the compound is an antibody.
13. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~The compound as claimed in claim 5 ~~any one of claims 6 to 9~~ wherein the compound is a humanised or chimaeric antibody.
14. (Cancelled)
15. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a compound~~The method according to claim ~~14~~2, wherein the compound is an antibody.
16. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a compound~~The method according to claim ~~15~~13, wherein the antibody is ~~the~~a monoclonal antibody produced by ~~the~~commercial clone JB1a.
17. (Original) A compound identified by the method of claim 5.

18. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition for use in tissue repair wherein the composition includes as an active ingredient, a compound which modifies the function of beta 1 integrin.